

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LAGOS 07674 01 OF 02 081819Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CU-04 HEW-06 LAB-04 EB-07
SIL-01 COME-00 IGA-02 /040 W
-----108491 081859Z /43

P R 081655Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2179
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMCONSUL IBADAN

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 LAGOS 07674

DEPARTMENT PASS AID, DHEW, DOL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, ELAB, OEXC, NI
SUBJECT: NIGERIAN MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS AND US ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 154136

SUMMARY:

MISSION OFFICERS MET WITH EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF NIGERIAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND PRESENTED AIDE-MEMOIRE ON US RESPONSE TO FMG MANPOWER PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. DISCUSSED POSSIBLE PROBLEMS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM AS WELL AS NECESSARY FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR US ASSISTANCE. ADVERTISEMENTS FOR CANDIDATES FIRST APPEARED IN LOCAL PRESS JULY 8 AND MEETING OF FMG INTERIM COMMITTEE SCHEDULED WITH ALL STATE LIAISON REPRESENTATIVES JULY 15 IN LAGOS. BEST ESTIMATE FOR EMBASSY'S RECEIPT OF CANDIDATES NAMES AND SOME DOCUMENTATION IS JULY 30.

ANTICIPATE 100 TO 500 NAMES TO BE PRESENTED AT THAT TIME. EMBASSY BELIEVES AID EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION TEAM SHOULD BE PREPARED COME TO NIGERIA END JULY TO ASSIST IF NUMBER OF CANDIDATES WARRANTS.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 07674 01 OF 02 081819Z

END SUMMARY

1. MEMBERS OF EMBASSY AD HOC MANPOWR TEAM (USIS, ECON AND AID) MET FOR TWO HOURS JULY 7 WITH DR. P.I. AMENECHI, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, NIGERIAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND PRESENTED AIDE-MEMOIRE COVERING SUBSTANCE OF REFTTEL. EMBOFF PREFACED DISCUSSION BY STATING THAT USG OFFERING ITS ASSISTANCE

AND GOOD OFFICES IN ENDEAVORING PLACE NIGERIAN STUDENTS BUT NO GUARANTEE OF SUCCESS. HOWEVER, WE SYMPATHETIC WITH OBJECTIVES OF FMG PROGRAM AND WISHED MAKE ALL POSSIBLE EFFORTS TO ASSIST. EMBOFF ALSO DESCRIBED PRESENT EXCESS CAPACITY US HIGHER EDUCATION AND OTHER TRAINING INSTITUTIONS AND OUR DESIRE TO GET MOVING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH THE PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF PROGRAM.

2. CLEARLY APPARENT THAT MAXIMUM FMG OF 17,000 PARTICIPANTS WILL NOT BE REACHED FOR SOME TIME. IN FACT, FMG ONLY TODAY PLACED FIRST ADVERTISEMENTS IN PRESS DESCRIBING PROGRAM AND ESTABLISHED REQUIREMENTS. AMENECHI HAS SCHEDULED A MEETING OF ALL STATE LIAISON OFFICERS IN LAGOS JULY 15 AT WHICH TIME HE WILL RECEIVE FIRST BATCH OF STATES' CANDIDATES. HE HAS PROMISED PROVIDE TOKEN LIST OF NAMES (AS FEW AS 100 OR AS MANY AS 500) TO MISSION BY JULY 30.

3. WE QUESTION RELEVANCE OF STANDARD AID PARTICIPANT DOCUMENTATION. INFORMATION IT SOLICITS DEALS GENERALLY WITH DEGREE-LEVEL PROGRAMS, WHEREAS ACADEMIC PREPARATION OF CANDIDATES THIS PROGRAM WILL RECRUIT MAY BE OF SUCH POOR QUALITY THAT SUBSTANTIAL REMEDIAL ASSISTANCE REQUIRED. AS INTERIM MEASURE, MISSION PERSONNEL, IN CONJUNCTION WITH FMG, ARE ATTEMPTING DESIGN A MORE USEFUL APPLICATION FORM. CANDIDATES WILL BE FROM SPECTRUM BETWEEN DEGREE SEEKERS AND SCHOOL LEAVERS. IT CLEAR THAT FMG DESIRES PROVIDE MODEST CAPABILITIES TO YOUTHS WHO ARE NOT QUALIFIED FOR UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LAGOS 07674 01 OF 02 081819Z

HIGHER EDUCATION BUT YET WHO ARE CAPABLE OF ABSORBING TRAINING AND PROVIDING SUB-TECHNICAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES. AS VIEWED BY NIGERIAN SIDE, CANDIDATES EXPECTED TO FALL INTO TWO CATEGORIES: CATEGORY A CANDIDATES ARE THOSE WHO WILL BE SEEKING ASSOCIATE DEGREE LEVEL TRAINING; CATEGORY B CANDIDATES ARE THOSE WHOSE TRAINING WILL PROVIDE CRAFTSMAN AND TRADESMAN QUALIFICATIONS USUALLY OF A TERMINAL NATURE. IT IMPOSSIBLE AT PRESENT TO DETERMINE EVENTUAL NUMBERS IN A OR B CATEGORIES. WE CITED BASIC ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS NECESSARY FOR ENTRANCE US JUNIOR AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES WHERE ASSOCIATE OF ARTS OR ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE AWARDED.

4. SINCE MANY OF THE NOMINEES MAY NOT HAVE A GOOD SCHOOL LEAVING CERTIFICATE (I.E., TRANSCRIPT OF PASSING FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF CERTAIN BASIC SUBJECTS), MISSION PROPOSES THAT AID/W TAKE PREPARATORY STEPS TO ESTABLISH TEAM SUGGESTED IN REFTEL FOR ON-THE-GROUND EVALUATION OF NOMINEES IN NIGERIA. STRESSING IMPORTANCE OF ASSURING THAT US TRAINING WILL BE SUCCESSFUL, EMBOFFS SAID THAT NOMINEES MUST HAVE REACHED CERTAIN LEVEL OF ACADEMIC PREPARATION, ENGLISH COMPREHENSION AND CAPACITY TO ABSORB TECHNICAL TRAINING. MISSION DOES NOT HAVE STAFF TO EVALUATE ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS OF NOMINEES WHO MAY BE UNABLE SHOW CERTIFICATION AS

TO EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENTS. AMENECHI SAID FMG WOULD WELCOME WASHINGTON TEAM. AMENECHI SAID FMG ALSO ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE THE PROBABLE NECESSITY OF REMEDIAL ACADEMIC WORK IN ENGLISH COMPREHENSION AND BASIC MATH AND SCIENCE FOR CANDIDATES. NEED FOR EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF THESE INDIVIDUAL PROBLEMS IS ANOTHER REASON WHY ON-THE-GROUND EVALUATION TEAM IS NEEDED. WE HAVE TENTATIVELY SUGGESTED THAT FMG WORK OUT SCHEDULE FOR TEAM TO INTERVIEW CANDIDATES IN PERHAPS TEN REGIONAL CAPITALS WITH CANDIDATES COMING INTO THESE DESIGNATED POINTS FROM OTHER STATES. ESTIMATE THIS PROCEDURE MIGHT TAKE AS LONG AS TWO WEEKS. PROPOSE AID/W EARMARK APPROPRIATE EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION TEAM THAT COULD ARRIVE LAGOS LATE JULY IF NUMBER OF CANDIDATES WARRANTS.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LAGOS 07674 02 OF 02 081807Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CU-04 HEW-06 LAB-04 EB-07

SIL-01 COME-00 IGA-02 /040 W

-----108250 081922Z /43

P R 081655Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2180

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL KADUNA

AMCONSUL IBADAN

UNCLAS FINAL SECTION 2 OF 2 LAGOS 07674

5. IN PRINCIPLE, FMG PREPARED DEPOSIT INITIAL TEN PERCENT AND LATER PAY FULL FEES PRIOR DEPARTURE CANDIDATES. HOWEVER, AMENECHI SAID THAT WHILE HE HAD NO PRESENT REQUIREMENT TO RAISE WITH FMG MINISTRY OF FINANCE, HE IS CERTAIN FINANCE WILL ASK FOR AT LEAST RUDIMENTARY BREAKDOWN IN TERMS OF OVERHEAD ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS, TUITION, MAINTENANCE, TRAVEL, ETC. PRIOR TO APPROVING FULL FUNDING OF PROGRAM. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY WASHINGTON RESPONSE WITH ESTIMATE OF COSTS THESE ELEMENTS. THESE NECESSARY BEFORE FINANCIAL ARRANGMENTS CAN BE APPROVED BY FMG.

6. NIGERIAN SIDE NOTED OUR INSISTENCE FOR FORMAL PROVISION FOR RETURN OF CANDIDATES. THEY PREPARED PROVIDE USUAL BOND STATEMENT WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH SIX-MONTH BOND PERIOD UPON RETURN. IN CASE FMG UNABLE EMPLOY, CANDIDATE THEN FREE TO SEEK EMPLOYMENT IN PRIVATE SECTOR.

7. EMBASSY TEAM CITED POSITIVE ASPECTS OF IN-COUNTRY TRAINING

AND INDICATED USG INTEREST IN SEEKING WAYS ASSIST. EMBOFF SUGGESTED
THAT AMENECHI LOOK TO POSSIBILITY OF EXPANSION AND GREATER UTILIZATIO
N
OF ALREADY ESTABLISD OICI CENTER. AMENECHI ADMITTED THAT IN
SITU INSTITUTIONS WERE BEST. HOWEVER, PRESENT PROGRAM REQUIRED
A CRASH-BASIS SHORT-TERM DIMENSION BECAUSE OF URGENCY OF IMMEDIATE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 07674 02 OF 02 081807Z

REQUIREMENTS FACING FMG BOTH IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS. IT
WAS AMENECHI'S OPINION THAT EMERGENCY OVERSEAS TRAINING PHASE OF
PROGRAM WOULD TERMINATE IN 1980, AND THAT SOME OF THE RETURNEES WOULD
BE USED TO ESTABLISH AND STAFF IN-COUNTRY TRAINING INSTITUTIONS.

8. CONCLUSION - MISSION OFFICERS WERE IMPRESSED WITH INDUSTRY AND

BREADTH OF UNDERSTANDING DISPLAYED BY AMENECHI. WE BELIEVE HE AND
HIS COMMITTEE ARE DETERMINED TO MOVE QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY. WE
EXPECT TO RECEIVE AT LEAST 100 NAMES INCLUDING DOCUMENTATION,
ALBEIT INCOMPLETE FOR OUR PURPOSES, BY JULY 30. IF WE CAN PROVIDE
INFORMATION ON COST CATEGORY BREAKDOWN, ANTICIPATE FMG WILL PROVIDE
DEPOST FOR NUMBER OF CANDIDATES PUT FORWARD.
EASUM

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL TRAINING, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAGOS07674
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770243-0620
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770778/aaaacpwy.tel
Line Count: 196
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 49dc146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 154136
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1923859
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NIGERIAN MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS AND US ASSISTANCE
TAGS: EAID, ELAB, OEXC, NI
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/49dc146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009